Post Offices in AP

2653. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of village that arc covered by Post Offices in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) whether any norms have been specified for opening up of a new Post Office in a village, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAP AN SIKDAR): (a) The entire State of Andhra Pradesh is covered by postal facilities of daily delivery, collection of mails and sale of Stamps and Stationery. A district-wise list of number of villages with Post Offices in Andhra Pradesh is given in Statcmcnt-I *(See* below).

(b) and (c) the norms specified for opening up of a new post office in a village arc given in Statcmcnt-II.

Statement I

District-wise number of villages covered by post offices in Andhra Pradesh as on 31-3-2001

SI. No	Name of District	Number of villages with Post Office
1.	Anantapur	881
2.	Adilabad	480
3.	Chittoor	819
4.	Cuddarpah	781
5.	East Godavari	784
6.	Guntur	729
7.	Hyderabad	NIL
8.	Karimnagar	687
9.	Khamman	569

SI. No	Name of District	Number of villages with Post Office
10.	Krishna	718
11.	Kurnool	929
12.	Mahboob Nagar	825
13.	Mcdak	557
14.	Nalgonda	699
15.	Ncllore	732
16.	Nizamabad	450
17.	Prakasam	631
18.	Rangarcddy	324
19.	Srikakulam	533
20.	Vizianagaram	654
21.	Visakhapatnam	588
22.	West Godavari	695
23.	Warangal	716
	TOTAL:	14781

Statement-II

Norms Specified for Opening of New Post Office in a Village Norms for opening Extra Departmental Branch Posts Offices:

1.1 Population:

(a) In Normal Areas:

3000 population in a group of villages (including the PPO Village).

(b) In Hilly, Tribal Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

1.2 Distance:

(a) In Normal Areas:

The minimum distance on from the nearest existing posts office will be 3 Kms.

(b) In Hilly, Tribal Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in Hilly Areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

1.3 Anticipated income:

(a) In Normal Areas

The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33VS of the cost

(b) In Hilly, Tribal Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.

2. Criteria upgrading/opening Department Sub Post Offices:

(a) In Rural Areas

The Minimum work load of the Extra Departmental Branch Post Office, proposed to be upgraded, should be five hours per day. The permissible limit of annual loss is Rs. 2400/- in Normal Rural areas and Rs. 480(K- in Tribal and Hilly areas.

Postal Tariff hike on books

2654. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would agree to roll back postal tariff hike on books; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) the total deficit of the Department of Posts for the year 2001-2002 (Projection) is about Rs. 1537 crores. The high deficit of the Department is due to continuous increase in the cost of operations which are largely manual and periodical increase due to revision of salaries, wages, dcarness allowance etc. from time to time add to the deficit. Even though some postal rates are revised from time to time, the percentage of increase in revenue is mostly far less than the percentage of increase in the expenditure incurred in providing the services. Consequently, operational cost of postal services has been increasing progressively and this has been a cause for concern.